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Investigator's Log Table of Contents Officer Involved Shooting Form IAB Investigative Narrative Transcribed Interviews

## IAB:

Scott Sorrow Andrew Campbell

# Homicide: Scott Serrow

Andrew Campbell



#### Exhibits:

- A- Letter of Opinion (JSID)
- B- Criminal Investigation (Homicide Book)
- C- Crime Scene Photos
- D- Deputy Daily Work Sheet and Unit History
- E- In-Service

#### Miscellaneous Documents

Admonition for Sworn Witnesses

# SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

A Tradition of Service

DATE:

May 7, 2010

OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

FILE NO.

SH2243356

FROM:

ERIC B. SMITH, COMMANDER

LEADERSHIP AND TRAINING DIVISION

he pointed it at vehicular traffic on 20th Street East.

TO:

KARYN MANNIS, CAPTAIN

INTERNAL AFFAIRS BUREAU

SUBJECT:

**EXECUTIVE FORCE REVIEW COMMITTEE DISPOSITION:** 

**DEPUTY SCOTT SORROW #** 

DEPUTY

PALMDALE STATION

On May 10, 2009, as Deputy Scott Sorrow saw Subject point an apparent handoun at him, Deputy Sorrow shot Subject At about 1952 hours, Deputy Sorrow, 263E/PM, with his partner, Deputy who had pointed a shot a 15-year-old male juvenile, Subject handgun in the direction of their patrol vehicle at 20th Street East at Avenue Q-11, in Palmdale. Deputy personnel were en route to a call for service unrelated to the incident. Deputy Sorrow was the passenger of the marked Sheriff's patrol unit, while his partner, Deputy was the driver. and Sorrow were driving northbound in their patrol car on 20th **Deputies** Street East at Avenue Q-11, in Palmdale, when Deputy drawn to a male juvenile riding a bicycle southbound on the west sidewalk of 20th Street East. The male was holding a black semiautomatic pistol in his left hand as

As Deputy communicated his observation to Deputy Sorrow, they drove by the male subject, who looked in their direction and began to accelerate south on 20<sup>th</sup> Street East. Deputy made a U-turn to contact the male subject and came within several feet behind him, alongside the curb. Both deputies ordered the male subject to stop the bicycle and drop the gun several times, without compliance. The subject stopped his bicycle suddenly and turned toward the deputies, with the pistol in his left hand, pointing it at them.

Fearing they were about to be shot, Deputy Sorrow fired one round from his Department-issued 9mm Beretta handgun, striking the subject in the upper torso. The subject collapsed and was subsequently airlifted to Holy Cross Medical Hospital in San Fernando Valley where he recovered from a gunshot wound to the left side flank.

A black handgun with brown plastic grips was recovered at the scene, which was determined to be a replica firearm. One expended 9mm shell casing was retrieved from the sidewalk.

During the ensuing investigation, it was determined that the subject was developmentally disabled and had been pointing the realistic-looking replica at passing motorists prior to the deputies' arrival.

On April 22, 2010, the Executive Force Review Committee convened and conducted a review regarding the facts of this case. The applicable policies that were evaluated by the committee were: MPP §§ 3-01/025.00, Use of Force; 3-01/025.30, Use of Firearms and Deadly Force; 3-01/025.10, Unreasonable Force; and 3-01/050.10, Performance to Standards.

#### Concerning:

MPP § 3-01/025.00, Use of Force, MPP § 3-01/025.30, Use of Firearms and Deadly Force, and MPP § 3-01/025.10, Unreasonable Force, the Committee determined that the force used by Deputy Scott Sorrow # was reasonable and necessary and in compliance with Department policy.

MPP § 3-01/025.00, Use of Force, MPP § 3-01/025.30, Use of Firearms and Deadly Force, and MPP § 3-01/025.10, Unreasonable Force, the Committee determined that the force used by Deputy was reasonable and necessary and in compliance with Department policy.

MPP § 3-01/050.10, Performance to Standards, the Committee determined that the tactics employed by all personnel in this incident were within Department Policy.

The Committee directed the unit commander to send Deputies Scott Sorrow

# Training Unit's Tactics I course. The APIS Roster of the training attended shall be returned with the Unit Commander Response form.

Eric B. Smith, Commander

EBS:RSP/rsp

# SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

A Tradition of Service

DATE:

May 6, 2010

OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

FILE NO.

SH2243356

FROM:

ERIC B. SMITH, COMMANDER

LEADERSHIP & TRAINING DIVISION

TO:

BOBBY D. DENHAM, CAPTAIN

CENTURY STATION

SUBJECT:

EXECUTIVE FORCE REVIEW COMMITTEE FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

**USE OF FORCE** 

The purpose of this memo is to notify you of the review committee's findings and recommendations concerning the use of force incident which occurred on May 10, 2010

The Committee met on April 22, 2010, and consisted of me, Commander Stephen B. Johnson, Custody Operations Division, and Commander Michael J. Rothans, Field Operations Region III. The Committee determined the use of force by Deputy Scott Sorrow # and Deputy was within Department policy.

Please advise deputies of this finding.

EBS:RSP/rsp



# LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE BUREAU OF FRAUD AND CORRUPTION PROSECUTIONS JUSTICE SYSTEM INTEGRITY DIVISION

STEVE COOLEY • District Attorney

JOHN K. SPILLANE • Chief Deputy District Attorney

CURTIS A. HAZELL • Assistant District Attorney

JANICE L. MAURIZI . Director

August 11, 2009

Captain David Smith Homicide Bureau Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department 5747 Rickenbacker Road Commerce, California 90040

Re: JSID Fil

JSID File # 09-0300

LASD File # 009-08192-2610-152

#### Dear Captain Smith:

The Justice System Integrity Division of the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office has completed its review of the May 10, 2009, non-fatal shooting of the May

The following analysis is based on reports prepared by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD), submitted to this office by members of the LASD Homicide Bureau, on June 25, 2009. The District Attorney's Command Center was notified of the shooting on May 10, 2009, at approximately 9:17 p.m. The District Attorney Response Team, comprised of Deputy District Attorney Christina Buckley and District Attorney Senior Investigator responded and was given a briefing and walk-through of the scene. Deputy Sorrow provided a voluntary statement which was considered as part of this analysis.

#### FACTUAL ANALYSIS

On May 10, 2009, at approximately 7:53 p.m., Deputies Andrew Campbell (driver) and Scott Sorrow (passenger) were traveling northbound on 20<sup>th</sup> Street East toward Avenue Q-9 in the City of Palmdale when Campbell noticed a male, subsequently identified as riding a bicycle southbound on the west sidewalk. In the left hand, Campbell saw what appeared to be a black semiautomatic handgun. Campbell advised Sorrow of his observation and made a U-turn. Sorrow turned his attention to the left hand saw him raise the handgun as he yelled at someone.

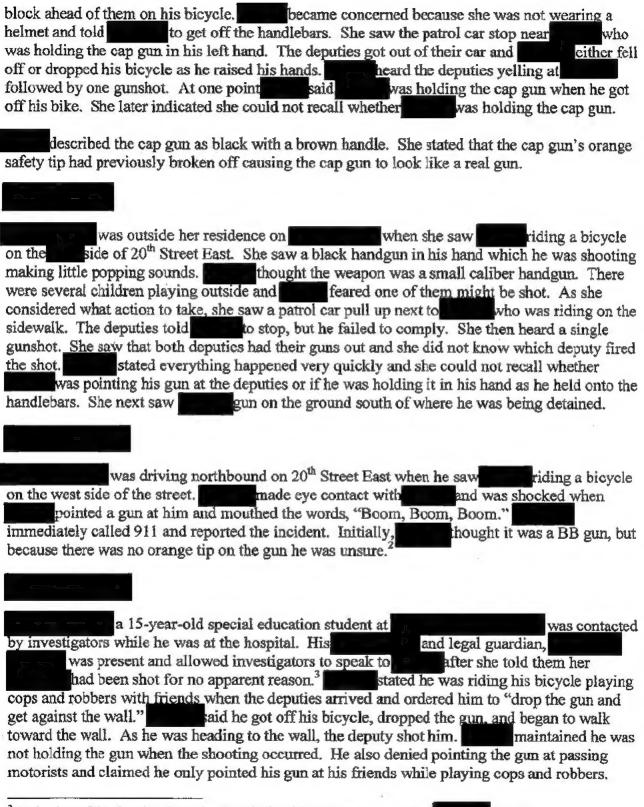
Deputies Campbell and Sorrow unholstered their weapons. When the patrol car came within 30 to 40 feet of both deputies ordered him to drop the gun. When the patrol car was within

Captain David Smith August 11, 2009 Page 2 of 5

10 to 15 feet of he stopped the bicycle and placed both feet on the ground. Through the open passenger side window, Sorrow ordered to drop the gun and put his hands up.  while still sitting on the bike, turned his body toward the deputies and pointed his gun at them. At this time, Campbell was attempting to put the patrol car in park and Sorrow had begun to exit the patrol car. Upon seeing pointing the gun at them, both deputies were in fear for their life. Sorrow fired one round at who dropped the gun, stumbled off his bike, and fell to the ground.
The deputies approached and cuffed his hands behind his back. When was rolled over to his side, the deputies realized he was bleeding and paramedics were summoned. While was on the ground, he stated, "It's a fake gun. I was playing cops and robbers with my friends!"
The "friends" was referring to were subsequently identified as 10-year-old and younger brother, and were approximately one block north of and the deputies' location and witnessed the shooting.  Avenue Q-9 and did not witness the incident.
Statement
spoke to investigators and confirmed that he and were part of a group playing cops and robbers at the time of the shooting. He explained that the gun in possession was a cap gun which belonged to and robbers, was riding on the handlebars of bike as the three of them pursued saw was the "robber." was riding on the handlebars of bike as the three of them pursued saw waving the cap gun around in the air and repeatedly warned him that he should not wave the gun around because it looked like a real gun. It ignored warning and told him, "No one could see."
Prior to the shooting, saw riding his bicycle southbound on 20 <sup>th</sup> Street East pretending to shoot at passing vehicles. When saw the patrol car make a U-turn and drive southbound toward he told "Uh oh, it's the cops." misunderstood concern and replied that was wearing a helmet. In response, said, "What about the gun?" He then saw the passenger side door of the patrol car open and heard one gunshot followed by falling to the ground.
Statement
told investigators that prior to the shooting, she and a group of friends were riding their bicycles and playing cops and robbers. The shooting had a cap gun which he was waving around. She recalled repeatedly telling him to put the cap gun in his pocket. When first noticed the patrol car, was riding on her handlebars and was approximately one

was concerned because she was not wearing a helmet.

Captain David Smith August 11, 2009 Page 3 of 5



At the time of the shooting, Deputies Campbell and Sorrow were unaware of all call.

3 also informed investigators that she had already contacted an attorrey.

Captain David Smith August 11, 2009 Page 4 of 5

#### **Medical Treatment**

Providence Holy Cross Hospital where he was treated by Doctor Bradley Roth. On May 29, 2009, LASD Homicide Detective Dawn Retzlaff spoke to Dr. Roth who stated he surgically removed one projectile from back. Dr. Roth stated the projectile entered left side in the flank area and there was no significant trauma.

#### Additional Evidence

The replica handgun possessed by was examined by LASD Sergeant William Marsh and Firearms Examiner M. Munoz. The replica was constructed of plastic and had the appearance of a small to medium framed semiautomatic pistol. The grip portion was painted brown to resemble wood grips and the rest of the replica was painted black.

#### CONCLUSION

According to the law in California, the use of deadly force in self-defense or in the defense of others is justifiable if the person claiming the right to use self-defense actually and reasonably believed (1) that he or she, or the person who he or she was defending was in imminent danger of death or great bodily injury, and (2) that it was necessary under the circumstances to use deadly force to avoid such imminent death or great bodily injury.

The "reasonableness" of a particular use of force must be judged from the perspective of a reasonable officer on the scene, rather than with the 20/20 vision of hindsight. The calculus of reasonableness must embody allowance for the fact that police are often forced to make split-second judgments -- in circumstances that are tense, uncertain, and rapidly evolving -- about the amount of force that is necessary in a particular situation. Graham v. Conner, (1989) 490 U.S. 386, 396-397.

If one is confronted by the appearance of danger which one believes, and a reasonable person in the same position would believe, would result in death or great bodily injury, one may act upon those circumstances. Actual danger is not necessary to justify the use of deadly force in self-defense. The right of self-defense is the same whether the danger is real or merely apparent. People v. Toledo, (1948) 85 C.A. 2d 577.

The evidence examined sh	ows when Deputy Campbell first of	observed riding his
bicycle, he saw what appea	ared to be a semiautomatic handgu	in in his hand. He relayed his
observation to Deputy Son	row who also saw the weapon. Ca	umpbell immediately made a U-turn
and drove toward	As the patrol car got closer to	both deputies ordered him to
stop and drop the gun.	failed to comply. As Campbe	ll drove the patrol car alongside the
curb, Sorrow again ordered	to stop and drop the gun.	turned his body and looked

Captain David Smith August 11, 2009 Page 5 of 5

back at the deputies. However, instead of dropping the weapon, he pointed what appeared to be a semiautomatic weapon in their direction. Deputy Sorrow feared for his life as well as the life of his partner and was forced to make a split second decision. He fired one round which struck in the left side. Deputy Campbell also was in fear for his life and told investigators he would have fired his weapon but Sorrow was in the line of fire.

We find that Deputy Sorrow acted in lawful self-defense and defense of others. Therefore, we are closing our file and will take no further action in this matter.

Very truly yours,

STEVE COOLEY District Attorney

CHRISTINA FLEMING BUCKLEY

Deputy District Attorney

(213) 974-3880

c: Deputy Scott Sorrow, #

# Los A reles County Sheriff's Depretment

# Officer Involved Shooting

1 of 5 Page Report Date: Admin. Invest.? X 01/31/2010 Palmdale Incident Information URN: 009-08192-2610-152 1952 hours Nature of Incident: Deputies observe a male riding a bicycle pointing a City or Station: Palmdale handgun at vehicular traffic. As deputies attempt to stop the individual, the Location: Intersection of 20th Street East and male turns and begins point the handgun at them. Passenger deputy fires Avenue Q-11, Palmdale, one round at the suspect striking him in the upper torso wounding him. Incident Type (circle one or more): Location Type (circle one or more): Lighting (circle only one): Initiated by (circle only one): Accidental Arrest Warrant Darkness Backyard (Armed Person) Call Daylight > Beach Fleeing Suspect Observation Business Other **Foot Pursuit** One Person Unit Street Lights Freeway Gun Take Away Other Industrial Moving Vehicle Search Warrant Weather (circle only one): Park Sniper/Ambush Two Person Unit Parking Lot Startle Cloudy Residence Struggle Involved Prior Activity (circle only one): Fog Rural Traffic Stop Detective Rain Unarmed Person Inmate Transport School Unintentional Street Other Distance Vehicle Pursuit Routine Patrol 10 - 15 feet Other: Warrant Service Total # of Shots Fired by Deputy Total # of Shots Fired by Suspect Warning Shot Aero Unit? Carsine Unit? Other MIL Employee # Last Name First Name ShiftTime (circle only one): ShiftType (circle only one): Campbell Andrew (PM) Day Regular Overtime Off Duty Last Name ShiftTime (circle only one): ShiftType (circle only one): Employee # First Name M.L Regular Overtime Off Duty PM Day Employee # Last Name First Name M.L ShiftTime (circle only one): ShiftType (circle only one) Regular Overtime EM. Day PM Non-Employee Witnesses Last Name First Name Street Address ZID Cod Last Name First Name M.I. Street Address Last Name First Name M.1. MARK DE Streat Address Supervisors (circle one or more): Employee # First Name Last Name MI Witness to shooting On Duty S Nagel Andrew Involved in shooting Present during shooting Last Name First Name MI (circle one or more): Witness to shooting Present during shooting Involved in shooting Last Name M.I. Employee # Zarris Paul

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	Po				
SH#					

Last Name

Tucker

Watch Commander

First Name

Marion

M.I.

Employee #

# Officer Involved Shooting . URN: 009-08192-2610-152

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Arrival Date Arriva		Rollout Information Date Submitted	POTATO POPULATION A	Date of Recommendation			
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Employee # Last Name Robe	rts	·····	First NamMar	ia		M.I	Ţ
Employee # Last Name Grima	ıldi		First NamMike	3		MI	J
	Shoot	ing / Force Inform	ation				
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(AW) Arwen (BC) Baten (Control) (BI) Baten (Impact) (BF) Bodily Fluids (CN) Can ne (CR) Carotid Restraint (CH) Choke Hold (CT) Control Holds (Control Techniques) (TT) Control Holds: (Team Takedown) (TD) Control Holds: (Takedown) (CE) Chemical Agents (OC Spray) (TG) Chemical Agents (Tear Ges) (EX) Exposives (FH) Firearm (Rifle) (FR) Firearm (Shotgun) (FR) Firearm (Other) (FB) Flashlight (OE) Other Weapon Edged	(OO) Other Weapo (PK) Personal Wei (PS) Personal Wei (PH) Personal Wei (PP) Personal Wei (PO) Personal Wei (RS) Resistance (CN) Restraint Dev (HB) Restraint Dev (HB) Restraint Dev (TP) Restraint Dev	in: Blunt Object in: Other apon: Feet/Leg: (Kick) apon: Feet/Leg: (Kick) apon (Hand/Arm) apon (Push) apon (Other) ince (Capture Net) ince (Handculfs) ince Hobble (Legs Only) ince Hobble (TARP) ince REACT Bett	(AB) (BR) (BU) (CP) (CO) (DH) (DB) (FR) (GS) (HB) (LC) (ND) (PA) (PW) (SD) (ST) (UN)	Abrasion Bruise Burn Complaint of Pain Concussion Death Dislocation Dog Bite Fractures Gunshot Human Bite Lacerations Nerve Damage Organ Damage Paralysis Puncture Wound Soft Tissue Damage Sprain/Twists Unconsolous	(AD) (AK) (AR) (BK) (CH) (EL) (FA) (FE) (GR) (HD) (HE) (HD) (LN) (SH)	Abdome Ankle Arm Backock Chest Elbow Face Feet Fingers Genitals Grein Hand Head Hip Internal Knees Leg Nack Shouldes	69

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(BR)	Beretta	(LO)	Lordin	(SW)	Smith & Wesson
(BW)	Browning	(LU)	Luger	(SR)	Sturm Ruger
(CH)	Charter Arms	(MA)	Marin	(ST)	Sterling
(CO)	Colt	(MO)	Mossberg	(TA)	Tatrus
(DA)	Davis Industries	(NC)	NCI aka SKS	(WE)	Weatherby
(GL) (HA)	Glock	(NA)	North American	(VVN)	Wirchester
(HA)	Harrington & Richardson	(NO)	Norinco	(US)	US Government
(HI)	Hi Standard	(RA)	Raven	(YY)	Handmade (Inmate)
(HK)	H&K	(RM)	Remington	(XX)	Homerrade (Non-Inmale)
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Cal	iber				
(9)	9 mm	(24)	243 caliber	(41)	.410 guage
10)	10 mm	(25)	25 caliber	(44)	.44 caliber
(2)	12 guage	(30)	308 çal ber	(45)	45 caliber
20)	20 guage	(35)	357 caliber	(50)	50 mm
21)	22-250	(36)	30-60 caliber	(SL)	Slug
22)	.22 caliber	(38)	36 caliber	(WW)	Other caliber
23)	.223 caliber	(40)	40 calber		

NONE

## FORCE APPLIED (one code per block)

Used By (E# or S#)	Used Against (E# or S#)	Method (Code)	Brand (Code)	Caliber (Code)	Authorized Weapon? (Y/N)	Authorized Ammunition? (Y/N)	Type of Injury (Code)	Body Pari (Code)
E#1	S#1	FH	BR	9	Υ	Y	GS	BK
S#1	E#1	FH	ZZ	WW	-	_	NN	-
S#1	E#2	FH	ZZ	WW	-	-	NN	-
-								
-**								

## Officer Involved Shooting Involved Employee Information

URN 009 08192 2610 152

Page

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Involved Employee Last Name Employee E 1 Sorrow Scott E Unit Assignment Work Assignment (Unit #, Module etc.) Rank W DSG Palmdale 263E Shift Type (circle only one): ShiftTime (circle only one) Substance Used: Intoxication/Drug Usage? (PM) Day Regular Overtime Off Duty Hospital Name: Coroner Case # Hospital Admission? Coroner Case? interviewed? Hrs of sleep prior to shooting Clothing (circle only one) Other Factors Raid Jacket w/ Ves Plain Clothes no Vest Height Weight: Plain Clothas w/ Vest Uniform no Vest 5'11 195 Raid Jackel no Vest C PPC Qualification Date: Laser Training Date Range Qualification Date Certified with Weapon lumber of Prior Certification Unit Directed Force Patrol Certification? Prior Shaptings hootings Weapons Fired Caliber # Shots Weapons Fired Caliber # Shots 9mm Beretta 92F Brand Brand: Field Training Officer Emp Last Name First Name MΤ Field Training Officer Emp ast Name First Name MI Last Name First Name MI. Employee # Say Race Rank Unit Assignment Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.) ShiftTime (circle only one) ShiftType (circle only one): Substance Used: Infoxication/Drug Usage? PM Regular Overtime Off Duty Hospital Name: Coroner Case # Hospital Admission? Coroner Case? Interviewed? Hrs of sleep prior to shooting | Duty Time (hrs). Other Factors Citating (circle only one): Raid Jackel w/ Ves Flain Clothes no Vest Height: Age. VVelgini: Plain Clothes w/ Vest Liniform on Vest Raid Jacket no Vest Uniform w/ Vost Range Qualification Date: PPC Qualification Date: Laser Training Date: Cartified with Weapon Number of Prior Directed Force Patrol Certification? Certification Unit: Prior Shootings? Shootings Used? Weapons Fired Caliber # Shots Weapons Fired Caliber # Shots Brand. Field Training Officer Emp # Last Name First Name Mi Field Training Officer Emp # First Name Last Name MI. First Name Last Name Employee # MI Work Assignment (Unit # Module, etc.). Sex Race Rank Unit Assignment ShiftTime (circle only one): ShiftType (circle only one): Substance Used Intoxication/Drug Usage? Regular Overtime Off Duty Hospital Name Coroner Case # Hospital Admission? Coroner Case? Interviewed? Hrs of sleep prior to shooting. Duty Time (hrs). Clothing (circle only one): Other Factors Raid Jacket w/ Vest Plain Clothes no Vest Height Uniform no Vest Weight Plain Clothes w/ Vest Raid Jacket no Vest Uniform w/ Vest Range Qualification Date: PPC Qualification Date: Laser Training Date. Certified with Weapon [ Number of Prior Directed Force Patrol Certification? Certification Unit Prior Shootings? [ Used? Weepons Fired Caliber # Shots Weapons Fired Caliber # Shots Brand Field Training Officer Emp # Last Name First Name МΙ First Name Field Training Officer Emp # Lost Name МΙ

# Officer Involved Shooting (

009-08192-2610-152

**Suspect Information** 4 of 5 Page Suspect Information Last Name S 1 ΜI AKA Last Name First Name MI Street Address State & Zin Con Sex Race City W M Social Security # Worl Driver's License # DOB /ve ght FBI# C## Height 15 Primary Charge Воокіпд # Secondary Charge. 417.4 PC Coroner Case # Substance Used Coroner Case? Intoxication/Drug Usage? Armed? Apprehended? Mental illness? Commal History Vehide Make Model: N/A Last Name First Name MΙ AKA Last Name First Name MI. State & Zip Code Sex Race Street Address Cit/ Home Phone: Social Security #: Work Phone Driver's License # DO.B Weight Height: FBI# CII# Age Booking # Primary Charge: Secondary Charge Coroner Case # Substance Used Coroner Case? Intoxication/Drug Usage? Armed? Apprehended? Mental Illness? Criminal History? Vahida Make Model: Year Last Name First Name ΜI AKA Lasi Name First Name M I. Race. Street Address: Clty State & Zip Code Sex. Home Phone. Social Security #. Work Phone Driver's License # D.O.B. Height: Weight: F81# Booking # Primary Charge: Secondary Charge Coroner Case # Substance Used Coroner Case? Intoxication/Drus Usage? Apprehended? Armed? Mental liness? **Criminal History?** Vahide Make Model: Year Last Name First Name M.1 AKA Last Name First Name M.I. Street Address. State & Zip Code Sex Race' City Work Phone Home Phone: Social Security # Driver's License # DOB CII# Age Height. Weight FBI# Booking # Primary Charge Secondary Charge Coroner Case # Substance Used Intoxication/Drug Usage? Coroner Case? Apprehended? Armed? Mental Illness? Criminal History?

Model

Year

Vehicle Make

# SUPPLEMEN AL NON-EMPLOYE WITNESSES Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

Total Name
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# County of Los Angeles SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

# HIT SHOOTING EVALUATION (On Duty)

UNIT: Palmdale Sheriff's Station DATE: May 10, 200, Sunday

TIME: 1952 hours

LOCATION: 20th Street East and Avenue Q-11, Palmdale, CA

URN#: 009-08192-2610-152

IAB#: SH2243356

NATURE OF INCIDENT: On May 10, 2009, at about 1952 hours, Palmdale Sheriff's Deputy Scott Sorrow, Employee # assigned to 263E/PM, with his partner, Andrew Campbell, Employee # shot Subject (MJ/15), who pointed a handgun in the direction of their patrol vehicle at 20th Street East/Avenue Q-11, Palmdale. Deputy personnel were enroute to a call for service unrelated to the incident. Deputy Sorrow was the bookman/passenger of the marked Sheriff's patrol unit, while his partner, Deputy Andrew Campbell, Employee # was the driver.

#### The following is a summary of the events:

Deputies Campbell and Sorrow were driving in their Sheriff's marked patrol vehicle north on 20<sup>th</sup> Street East at Avenue Q-11 in Palmdale when Deputy Campbell's attention was drawn to a male juvenile riding a bicycle southbound on the west sidewalk of 20<sup>th</sup> Street East. The male was holding a black semiautomatic pistol in his left-hand as he pointed it at vehicular traffic on 20<sup>th</sup> Street East.

As Deputy Campbell communicated his observation to Deputy Sorrow, they drove by the male subject, who looked in their direction and began to accelerate south on 20<sup>th</sup> Street East. Deputy Campbell made a U-turn in order to contact the male subject and closed to within several feet behind him alongside the curb. Both deputies ordered the male subject to stop the bicycle and drop the gun several times without compliance. The subject suddenly stopped his bicycle and turned toward the deputies with the pistol in his left-hand pointing it at them.

Fearing they were about to be shot, Deputy Sorrow fired one round from his Department-issued 9mm Beretta handgun, striking the subject in the upper torso. The subject collapsed and was subsequently airlifted to Holy Cross Medical Hospital in San Fernando Valley where he recovered from a gun shot wound to the left side flank.

A black handgun with brown plastic grips was recovered at the scene, which was determined to be a replica firearm. One expended 9mm shell casing was retrieved from the sidewalk.

During the ensuing investigation, it was determined the subject was developmentally disabled and had been pointing the realistic looking replica at passing motorists prior to the deputies' arrival.

Internal Affairs Bureau was notified at 2130 hours, whereby Lieutenant Mike Grimaldi, along with Sergeant's Frank Quichocho and Teri Roberts responded to the command post to conduct a Shooting Review of the incident.

On August 11, 2009, Deputy District Attorney Christina Fleming-Buckley (JSID) issued a Letter of Opinion concerning the deputy-involved shooting. The District Attorney's conclusion stated the following:

"According to the law in California, the use of deadly force in self-defense or in the defense of others is justifiable if the person claiming the right to use self-defense actually and reasonably believed (1) that he or she, or the person who he or she was defending was in imminent danger of death or great bodily injury, and (2) that it was necessary under the circumstances to use deadly force to avoid such imminent death or great bodily injury.

The "reasonableness" of a particular use of force must be judged from the perspective of a reasonable officer on the scene, rather than with the 20/20 vision of hindsight. The calculus of reasonableness must embody allowance for the fact that police are often forced to make split-second judgments in circumstances that are tense, uncertain, and rapidly evolving about the amount of force that is necessary in a particular situation. <u>Graham v. Conner</u>, (1989) 490 U.S. 386, 396-397.

If one is confronted by the appearance of danger which one believes, and a reasonable person in the same position would believe, would result in death or great bodily injury, one may act upon those circumstances. Actual danger is not necessary to justify the use of deadly force in self-defense. The right of self-defense is the same whether the danger is real or merely apparent. <u>People v. Toledo</u>, (1948) 85 C.A. 2d 577.

The evidence examined shows when Deputy Campbell first riding his bicycle, he saw what observed appeared to be a semiautomatic handgun in his hand. He relayed the observation to Deputy Sorrow who also saw the weapon. Campbell immediately made a U-turn and drove As the patrol car got closer to both deputies ordered him to stop and drop the gua. failed to comply. As Campbell drove the patrol car alongside the curb, Sorrow again ordered to stop and drop the gun. I turned his body and looked backed at the deputies. However, instead of dropping the weapon, he pointed what appeared to be a semiautomatic weapon in their direction. Deputy Sorrow feared for his life as well as the life of his partner and was forced to make a split second decision. He fired one round which struck side. Deputy Campbell was also in fear for his life and told investigators he would fired his weapon but Sorrow was in the line of fire.

We find that Deputy Sorrow acted in lawful self-defense and defense of others. Therefore, we are closing our file and will no further action in this matter.

<u>IAB Note</u>: Refer to Exhibit A, for a detailed copy of the Letter of Opinion issued by the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office regarding the deputy-involved shooting.

The following summary is based on written documentation, and interviews of involved deputies.

#### INVOLVED PERSONNEL:

Sorrow, Scott E., Deputy Sheriff, Employee #Palmdale Sheriff's Station
Field Operations Region I

#### EMPLOYEE WORK HISTORY:

Date of Employment: Date Assigned to Patrol:

Completed Patrol Training:

05-06-1999

03-18-2007 (Transfer to Palmcale Station)

Prior Shooting Incident(s):

Prior Founded Force Incidents:

Campbell, Andrew J., Deputy Sheriff, Employee #

Palmdale Sheriff's Station Field Operations Region I

#### EMPLOYEE WORK HISTORY:

Date of Employment:

Date Assigned to Patrol: Completed Patrol Training:

Prior Shooting Incident(s): Prior Founded Force Incidents:

01-17-2002



#### INVOLVED SUSPECT:

MW/15, DOB Address

Involved Subject Juvenile History:

#### VICTIM'S:

- 1. Deputy Scott Sorrow
- 2. Deputy Andrew Campbell

LAB Note: Refer to Exhibits for a summary of the Homicide and Internal Affairs interviews.

#### **CIVILIAN WITNESSES:**



<u>IAB Note:</u> Refer to Exhibit A for a summary of the Homicide interview.

# **CANVASSED AREA OF WITNESSES:**



<u>IAB Note:</u> Refer to Exhibit A for a supplementary report of listed witness statements by patrol personnel.

# **DEPARTMENT WITNESS(S):**

1. Deputy Andrew Campbell

# INVOLVED EMPLOYEE STATEMENTS:

Deputy Scott Sorrow, Employee # was interviewed by Internal Affairs Sergeant Frank Quichocho on December 7, 2009, at approximately 1928 hours. Deputy Sorrow voluntarily agreed to the interview without a representative present. The interview was tape recorded and the following is a summary.

Deputy Sorrow said while driving south on 20<sup>th</sup> Street East, at Palmdale Blvd, he was advised by his partner, Deputy Campbell, who was the driver of the patrol car, that he saw a male on a bicycle with a gun. They made two U-turns allowing them to come up behind and alongside the bicyclist, who was riding south on the west sidewalk of 20<sup>th</sup>

Street East. Deputy Sorrow stated he saw the male holding a firearm up in the air with either his left or right hand, yelling at people who were in their residential yards west of the sidewalk. As they pulled up closer to the male, Deputy Sorrow said he yelled at him from the open patrol car window to stop and drop the gun; however, the male continued to ride his bicycle ignoring his commands. Further commands and orders were given to the male by both deputies, as Deputy Sorrow pointed his department-issued weapon at him. The male immediately stopped the bicycle at a 45-degree angle, in a southeasterly position, and looked back in the direction of the patrol car. As the male turned toward his left side, he pointed the firearm at Deputy Sorrow and his partner, Deputy Campbell. Deputy Sorrow said he then fired one round at the male as he exited the patrol car, adding he could not recall if the gun fell out of the male's hand or if the force of the gunshot knocked it out of his hand.

While standing next to the male, Deputy Sorrow said he heard him moaning and yelling about the weapon being a fake gun and that he was playing "cops and robbers." After initiating emergent radio traffic concerning an officer-involved shooting, he handcuffed the male.

Deputy Sorrow said it was later determined that the firearm the male was holding was a replice firearm.

During follow-up questioning, Deputy Sorrow stated the contact with the male on the bicycle was unrelated to a call for service they were responding to regarding a trespassing call (T-100); 602N call).

Deputy Sorrow said it was when they were driving south on 20<sup>th</sup> Street East the second time is when he noticed the male holding a gun in his hand by the handle bars of the bicycle. He added the male appeared to be shooting on the move as if firing the gun, brandishing it, and waving it at people who were in their residential yards west of the sidewalk. He added that he could not recall with one 100% clarity which hand held the gun.

During the approach toward the bicyclist, Deputy Sorrow stated there was no communication between him and Deputy Campbell because they were both giving commands to the male to stop, show his hands, and drop the gun. He added he and his partner were on the same page and there was no time for tactical communication due to the immediate threat.

Deputy Sorrow estimated the time from Deputy Campbell's first observation of the male on the bicycle to the point when the male had been shot was seconds. He said the entire incident happened quick and fast. Deputy Sorrow stated his concern at the time the male abruptly stopped his bicycle was that they were going to be shot.

# The following is an excerpt of Deputy Sorrow's transcripts on Page 6, Line 34:

Quichocho: At some point in time the suspect came to an abrupt stop?

**Sorrow:** Correct.

Quichocho: And then what concerns did you have at that point with him doing that with the gun

in his hand?

**Sorrow:** Us getting shot. Him shooting us

**Quichocho:** And at some point in time he turned around or faced you?

Sorrow: Right.

Quichocho: Did he...what .describe that more in detail You were the Book Man, you were the

passenger, he was closest to you from the sidewalk.

**Sorrow:** Correct. Like I said, it was about 10, 15 feet away. As I'm ordering him to stop, he

stops the bike The bike is pointed...it's not parallel with that wall right there. It's...

Quichocho: Right.

Sorrow: ...at a 45- degree angle, I guess that'd be pointing southeast. He turns, he looks at

us, he turns to his left and the...I see the barrel of the, of what appears to be a semi, a dark semi-automatic firearm pistol in his hand pointed right at us. I fired. Fired one round. He didn't say anything to us. He didn't, you know, you know, all I can

recall is saying, "Hey, drop the gun, let me see your hands." That was it.

**Quichocho:** When you fired your...how many rounds did you fire?

Sorrow: One.

Quichocho: Did it strike the suspect? Obviously....

Sorrow: Yes.

Quichocho: You know it hit him somewhere.

Sorrow: Correct, I didn't know at the time that I hit him. Well, at first I didn't know I hit

him 'til I saw a pool of blood coming out of him when he was laying on the back.

After the male was shot, Deputy Sorrow said he recalled standing on the sidewalk next to the male, who was laying on the sidewalk. He said when the male fell off the bicycle, he saw the gun fly out of his hand which landed a few feet south of the suspect. After handcuffing the male, he saw him bleeding from the back.

Deputy Sorrow said Deputy Campbell was also putting out radio traffic after the shooting occurred, in addition to coordinating units and securing the crime scene.

IAB Note: Refer to Exhibit B, for a copy of the crime sketch diagram drawn by Scientific Services Bureau.

Deputy Sorrow said the lighting conditions were daylight, more like twilight in that there was enough light to distinguish the male was holding a handgun. He described the handgun as a semiautomatic pistol with a dark looking grip and barrel.

During the encounter, Deputy Sorrow said he believed the male may have committed a crime based on his observations of the male holding a gun, riding away on a bicycle, appearing to evade them, brandishing a firearm, coupled with a 7 Eleven Store at the corner of Palmdale Blvd/20<sup>th</sup> Street East being robbed several times in the past, in addition to a 417 incident (man with a gun) containment of the area months prior to the incident.

The backdrop of the incident was a six-foot block retaining wall.

Deputy Sorrow believed the male heard and understood their commands to stop and drop the gun due to the male's demeanor when he looked back at them while riding his bicycle away and then abruptly stopping in the sidewalk. He added there was no reason for the male not to hear their commands since the windows of the patrol car were down, there was no heavy machinery in the area to drown out their voices, no loud music, no pedestrian traffic and no vehicular traffic, as well as no siren.

Deputy Sorrow said he could not recall if he shot the male from a seated position inside the patrol car or if he was already on the way out. He said the incident happened all at once, very quickly. He stated he was about 10 to 15 feet away from the male when the shot was fired.

After the shooting, Deputy Sorrow said he made a public safety comment to the initial arriving supervisor. He was then taken back to the station and sequestered.

The use of less-lethal weapons was not an option according to Deputy Sorrow because there was no time for it. He said their tactics regarding command and control were good as they did not stay seated in their patrol car during the deadly encounter, but exited as fast as they could utilizing the door as cover. He stated the incident happened so fast that he did not have time to put out emergent radio traffic until after the shooting was over.

Deputy Sorrow said he had point of aim, sight alignment and target acquisition during the entire encounter.

Deputy Sorrow stated the shooting was not an accidental discharge of his weapon.

<u>IAB Note:</u> Refer to a copy of Deputy Sorrow's transcribed interview for further detail.

#### **DEPARTMENT WITNESS STATEMENTS:**

Deputy Andrew Campbell, Employee # was interviewed by Internal Affairs Sergeant Frank Quichocho on December 7, 2009, at approximately 1840 hours. Deputy Campbell voluntarily agreed to the interview without a representative present. The interview was tape recorded and the following is a summary of the interview.

Deputy Campbell said he was assigned to a two-person patrol unit in Palmdale, as the driver, while his partner, Deputy Sorrow, was the passenger/bookman. He said they were driving north on 20<sup>th</sup> Street East enroute to a trespassing call at 20<sup>th</sup> Street East/Q-9, when he saw a male bicyclist headed south on the west sidewalk of 20<sup>th</sup> Street East at Palmdale Blvd., holding what appeared to be a black semiautomatic handgun in his left hand.

As Deputy Campbell continued driving north on 20<sup>th</sup> Street East, he and the male bicyclist made eye contact with each other. Deputy Campbell said he informed his partner of his observations, and made a quick U-turn approaching the male bicyclist from behind, who was headed south on the west sidewalk of 20<sup>th</sup> Street East. At this time, Deputy Campbell stated his partner confirmed that he recognized the male bicyclist was holding a gun in his hand.

During their approach, Deputy Campbell said both he and his partner drew their duty weapons from their holsters, as the male bicyclist looked over his shoulder toward them and continued riding south on the west sidewalk. Deputy Campbell stated prior to their approach, the male bicyclist was sitting on the seat; however, as they drew closer, the male stood up on the pedals and rode faster away from them. The male bicyclist was holding the handgun in his left hand, as well as gripping the handle bars of the bicycle at the same time.

Deputy Campbell said when they pulled up alongside the curb, just north of and behind the male bicyclist, which was about 10 feet away, they opened their patrol car doors and ordered the suspect to drop the gun and place his hands where it can be seen. Deputy Campbell stated the male abruptly slammed his bicycle to a complete stop causing him to also stop in order to avoid passing him.

Once the male stopped the bicycle, Deputy Campbell said he and Deputy Sorrow were both attempting to exit the patrol car. He noticed the male was still seated on his bicycle, while turning his body completely toward the right with the handgun still in his left hand pointing at them. At this point, Deputy Campbell stated he heard a gunshot as he exited the patrol car. He saw the male fall down to the ground as the gun comes out of his hand.

Deputy Campbell stated he and Deputy Sorrow made sure they were okay, then proceeded at gun point to contact the male. Once the male was handcuffed, they advised dispatch of an officer-involved shooting and requested medical assistance. Deputy Campbell said they monitored the male's medical condition pending the arrival of paramedics and assisting patrol units.

After the male was treated by paramedics and transported to the hospital, Deputy Campbell said they were taken to Palmdale Sheriff's Station separately and sequestered until Homicide investigators arrived.

During follow-up questioning, Deputy Campbell stated he initially saw the male holding the handgun with his left-hand pointing down at his side. After he made the U-turn, and came up behind the male, he was holding the handle bars of the bicycle along with the handgun.

Deputy Campbell said it was early summer; therefore the lighting conditions allowed him to clearly see the handgun, of which he described as a black frame semiautomatic pistol. He said the distance from where he first saw the handgun was approximately 45-50 feet from a 30 to a 45-degree angle when he passed the male bicyclist on the street.

Based on the male bicyclist's initial actions, Deputy Campbell said he believed a robbery and/or burglary may have just occurred due to the area being surrounded by both businesses and residential homes alike, coupled with the male holding a handgun, and the male's response after making eye contact with him was to continue fleeing from them. Deputy Campbell stated his perception was that the male did not intend to stop for them and/or be caught by deputy personnel.

Deputy Campbell stated he believed the male bicyclist noticed their police presence as he looked backward toward their approach then accelerated away from them when he stood up on the pedals of the bicycle.

Deputy Campbell estimated the time from his initial observation of the male to the time of the shooting was about 15-20 seconds.

Deputy Campbell said there were no other options in regards to less-lethal weapons' use due to the speed at which the male suspect engaged them as it immediately went to deadly force.

# SUSPECT'S INJURIES:

Entry wound to the left side of the flank area. Projectile removed from the back side just to the right of the spinal column. The projectile neither penetrated the rib cage nor entered either lung; therefore, caused only a bruised lung.

### **DEPUTY PERSONNEL INJURIES:**

None.

#### PHYSICAL EVIDENCE:

#### Collected by Scientific Services Bureau, Crime Scene Investigators:

#### Lab Receipt #K100443:

Item 1:

One fired 9mm Luger caliber cartridge case collected from the sidewalk on

20th Street East between Avenue Q-10 and Q-11.

#### Lab Receipt #K100445

Item FA-1:

One Beretta 9mm Luger caliber, Model 92FS, semiautomatic pistol with serial number BER The pistol was submitted with one magazine and fifteen 9mm Luger caliber cartridges.

IAB Note: Refer to Exhibit A, for further details.

#### **INVESTIGATORS OBSERVATIONS:**

None.

# WEAPONS USED BY DEPUTY PERSONNEL:

#### **DEPUTY SCOTT SORROW:**

Service Weapon: Beretta 9mm Luger caliber, Model 92FS, semiautomatic pistol bearing serial number BER

Type of Ammunition: 9mm Luger caliber cartridges.

Ammunition: One round fired and (15) live 9mm Luger caliber cartridges in a magazine.

Shell Casings: 1 (Lab #K100443)

Date Employee Last Qualified: (Mobile Range):

Date Last Trained With Weapon:

Laser Village:

Lab Receipt No. K100445, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department-Scientific Services Bureau, Firearms Identification Section (Refer to Exhibit A).

# **WEAPONS USED BY SUSPECTS:**

A blue steel pistol (Replica).

### **PROPERTY DAMAGE:**

N/A

### **CRIMINAL INVESTIGATOR and CHARGES FILED:**

Investigator:

LASD Homicide Detectives

Sergeant Shawn McCarthy and Dawn Retzlaff

Court:

N/A

Charges Filed:

N/A

Case Status:

N/A

# **WEATHER CONDITIONS AND LIGHTING CONDITIONS:**

The incident occurred during the hours of daylight and the weather was clear.